

3629

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
(General - Patent Pending)**

Docket No.  
01-015

In Re Application Of: **WALKER et al.**

Serial No.  
09/858,458

Filing Date  
May 16, 2001

Examiner  
Edward R. Cosimano

Group Art Unit  
3629

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SELLING AN AGING FOOD PRODUCT**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (6 pp.);  
PTO Form-1449 (1 pg.) and references cited therein (12); and  
Return Receipt Postcard.

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in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **50-0271** as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

Signature

Dated: **April 14, 2003**

Dean P. Alderucci  
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(203) 461-7300/fax

Customer No. 22927

cc: Alderucci@walkerdigital.com

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on April 14, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

**Michael D. Brinton**

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence



Application Serial No.: 09/858,458  
Attorney Docket No.: 01-015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALKER et al.

Serial No.: 09/858,458

Filing Date: May 16, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SELLING AN AGING FOOD PRODUCT

) Examiner: Edward R. Cosimano

) Group Art Unit: 3629

) Attorney Docket No: 01-015

) Customer No.: 22927



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as priority mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 14, 2003.

Dated: 04.14.03 By:

Michael D. Brinton

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☐ Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☒ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:  
  
☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.  
  
☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

[X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

5. [ ] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
  - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
  - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

9. ☐ I hereby certify:

☐ that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

☐ that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. ☐ Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

[ ] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. [X] In addition to the citations listed above, applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the following U.S. patent applications, which are commonly assigned to the assignee of the instant application, and which may be deemed pertinent to the instant application:

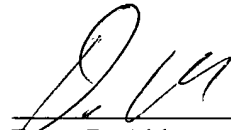
<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Inventors</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Examiner's Init.</u>
09/045,036	Walker et al.	03/20/98	3642	
09/045,386	Walker et al.	03/21/98	2786	
09/045,518	Van Luchene.	03/20/98	3642	
09/107,971	Van Luchene	06/30/98	3642	

The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. These applications have not been listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 in order to preserve their secrecy during the course of their prosecution.

12. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.
13. ☐ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

April 14, 2003  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Docket Number

01-015

Serial Number

09/858,458

Applicants

WALKER et al.

Filing Date

May 16, 2001

Group Art Unit

2161

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	A	JP57086974	05/31/82	Japan				
	B	JP2171891	07/03/90	Japan				
	C	JP2197998	08/06/90	Japan				
	D	JP2278399	11/14/90	Japan				
	E	JP4095198	03/27/92	Japan				
	F	JP8147545	06/07/96	Japan				
	G	JP4260914	09/16/92	Japan				
	H	WO 96/34358	10/31/96	PCT (Abstract)				
	I	JP8329350	12/13/96	Japan				
	J	JP10031792	02/03/98	Japan				
	K	JP 11-505343	05/18/99	Japan				

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## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

L	Raab, David M., "Package Aids Catalog Management", DM News, April 22, 1996, Section: Software Review, pg. 14.
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.